IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 16 and 31 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a holding unit adapted to hold print data;

an issuing unit adapted to issue reference information corresponding to the print data held by said holding unit, to both of a first printing apparatus and a second printing apparatus ~~a plurality of printing apparatuses~~; and

a transmission control unit adapted to control to transmit the print data to the first printing apparatus and not to transmit the print data to the second printing apparatus, in a case where an acquisition request of the print data transmitted from the first printing apparatus based on the reference information is received prior to an acquisition request of the print data transmitted from the second printing apparatus based on the reference information ~~a printing apparatus, from among the plurality of printing apparatuses, which first requested to acquire the print data based on the reference information, and not to transmit the print data to another printing apparatus, from among the plurality of printing apparatuses, which requested to acquire the print data after the print data was transmitted~~.

2. (Previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said issuing unit is a Web server function processing means.

3. (Previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said print data is transmitted via said predetermined communication medium,

the apparatus further comprising a receiving unit adapted to receive print data that is transmitted via a predetermined communication medium,

wherein said holding unit means holds print data received by said receiving unit and said issuing unit issues reference information for performing pull print corresponding to the print data held in said holding unit.

4. (Previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a notifying unit adapted to notify a second information processing apparatus, which is made communicatable via a predetermined communication medium, of said reference information.

5. (Previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a recognizing unit adapted to recognize whether or not said printing apparatus that is made communicatable via the predetermined communication medium corresponds to pull print; and

a determining unit adapted to determine whether a print request for push print or a print request for pull print is issued to said printing apparatus according to recognition of said recognizing unit.

6. and 7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said predetermined protocol is an Internet printing protocol.

9. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a print request in compliance with said predetermined protocol is a Pull request for obtaining said print data and the Pull request includes at least a GET method of an HTTP protocol or a get subcommand of an FTP protocol.

10. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reference information for performing pull print is information for specifying a storing place of print data stored in a storage unit and includes at least a URL.

11. (Previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a deleting unit adapted to delete said print data held in said holding unit according to a response from the print apparatus to which the print data is transferred.

12. (Previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said deleting unit means recognizes information for instructing whether or not said print data held in said holding unit is to be deleted and controls to switch whether or not said print data is to be deleted according to the recognition.

13. (Previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said Web server function processing unit manages said print data held in said holding unit and starts server function processing for performing Web server function processing in compliance with a predetermined protocol when a print request is issued from an application to a printing system.

14. (Original) The information processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said printing system includes a printer driver and a print spooler.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) An information processing method comprising:

a step of holding print data;

a step of issuing reference information corresponding to the print data held in said holding step, to both a first printing apparatus and a second printing apparatus ~~a plurality of printing apparatuses~~; and

a step of controlling to transmit the print data to the first printing apparatus and not to transmit the print data to the second printing apparatus, in a case where an acquisition request of the print data transmitted from the first printing apparatus based on the reference information is received prior to an acquisition request of the print data transmitted from the second printing apparatus based on the reference information ~~a printing apparatus, from among the plurality of printing apparatuses, which first requested to acquire the print data based on the reference information, and not to transmit the print data to another printing apparatus, from~~

~~among the plurality of printing apparatuses, which requested to acquire the print data after the print data was transmitted~~.

17. (Previously presented) The information processing method according to claim 16, wherein said issuing step is a Web server function processing step in compliance with a predetermined protocol.

18. (Previously presented) The information processing method according to claim 16, wherein said print data is transmitted via said predetermined communication medium,

the method further comprising a step of receiving print data that is transmitted via a predetermined communication medium,

wherein said holding step holds print data received in said receiving step and said issuing step issues reference information for performing pull print corresponding to the print data held in said holding step.

19. (Previously presented) The information processing method according to claim 16, further comprising a step of notifying a second information processing apparatus, which is made communicatable via a predetermined communication medium, of said reference information.

20. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 16, further comprising:

a step of recognizing whether or not said printing apparatus that is made communicatable via the predetermined communication medium corresponds to pull print; and

a step of determining whether a print request for push print or a print request for pull print is issued to said printing apparatus according to recognition of said recognizing step.

21. and 22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 17, wherein said predetermined protocol is an Internet printing protocol.

24. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 17, wherein a print request in compliance with said predetermined protocol is a Pull request for obtaining said print data and the Pull request includes at least a GET method of an HTTP protocol or a get subcommand of an FTP protocol.

25. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 16, wherein said reference information for performing pull print is information for specifying a storing place of print data stored in a storage unit and includes at least a URL.

26. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 16, further comprising a step of deleting said print data held in said holding step according to a response from said print apparatus to which said print data is transferred.

27. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 26, wherein said deleting step recognizes information for instructing whether or not said print data held in said holding step is to be deleted and controls to switch whether or not said print data is to be deleted according to the recognition.

28. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 17, wherein said Web server function processing step manages said print data held in said holding step and starts server function processing for performing Web server function processing in compliance with a predetermined protocol when a print request is issued from an application to a printing system.

29. (Original) The information processing method according to claim 28, wherein said printing system includes a printer driver and a print spooler.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium storing a program for executing:

a step of holding print data;

a step of issuing reference information corresponding to the print data held in said holding step, to both of a first printing apparatus and a second printing apparatus ~~a plurality of printing apparatuses~~; and

a step of controlling to transmit the print data to the first printing apparatus and not to transmit the print data to the second printing apparatus, in a case where an acquisition request of the print data transmitted from the first printing apparatus based on the reference information is received prior to an acquisition request of the print data transmitted from the second printing apparatus based on the reference information ~~a printing apparatus, from among the plurality of printing apparatuses, which first requested to acquire the print data based on the reference information, and not to transmit the print data to another printing apparatus, from among the plurality of printing apparatuses, which requested to acquire the print data after the print data was transmitted~~.

32. to 34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously presented) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transmission control unit controls to transmit an error to the other printing apparatus, from among the plurality of printing apparatuses, which requested to acquire the print data after the print data was transmitted.

36. (Previously presented) The information processing method according to claim 16, wherein said transmission control step is adapted to control to transmit an error to the other printing apparatus, from among the plurality of printing apparatuses, which requested to acquire the print data after the print data was transmitted.

37. (New) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a holding unit adapted to hold print data;

an issuing unit adapted to issue reference information corresponding to the print data held by said holding unit, to a plurality of printing apparatuses;

a receiving unit adapted to receive an acquisition request of the print data, transmitted from any of the plurality of printing apparatuses based on the reference information;

a judging unit adapted to judge whether or not the acquisition request received by said receiving unit is the acquisition request first received in regard to the print data; and

a transmission control unit adapted to transmit the print data to a print apparatus which transmitted the acquisition request in a case where it is judged by said judging unit that the received acquisition request is the first-received acquisition request, and not to transmit the print data to the print apparatus which transmitted the acquisition request in a case where it is not judged by said judging unit that the received acquisition request is the first-received acquisition request.

38. (New) An information processing method comprising:

a holding step of holding print data;

an issuing step of issuing reference information corresponding to the print data held in said holding step, to a plurality of printing apparatuses;

a receiving step of receiving an acquisition request of the print data, transmitted from any of the plurality of printing apparatuses based on the reference information;

a judging step of judging whether or not the acquisition request received in said receiving step is the acquisition request first received in regard to the print data; and

a transmission control step of transmitting the print data to a print apparatus which transmitted the acquisition request in a case where it is judged in said judging step that the received acquisition request is the first-received acquisition request, and not transmitting the print data to the print apparatus which transmitted the acquisition request in a case where it is not judged in said judging step that the received acquisition request is the first-received acquisition request.

39. (New) A storage medium which stores a computer-readable program for executing an information processing method comprising:

a holding step of holding print data;

an issuing step of issuing reference information corresponding to the print data held in said holding step, to a plurality of printing apparatuses;

a receiving step of receiving an acquisition request of the print data, transmitted from any of the plurality of printing apparatuses based on the reference information;

a judging step of judging whether or not the acquisition request received in said receiving step is the acquisition request first received in regard to the print data; and

a transmission control step of transmitting the print data to a print apparatus which transmitted the acquisition request in a case where it is judged in said judging step that the received acquisition request is the first-received acquisition request, and not transmitting the print data to the print apparatus which transmitted the acquisition request in a case where it is not judged in said judging step that the received acquisition request is the first-received acquisition request.